

Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

130 East Twenty-second Street, New York City

Bulletin

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There is no panacea. There is no typical child. More and more, character training must seek to adapt itself to the individual who is, especially in large communities, liable to be treated simply as an impersonal unit in a social and industrial mass.

—Excerpt from *New York Times* Editorial (November 22, 1929), "Juvenile Delinquents."

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THEIR MEETING OCTOBER 21 AND 22, 1929

(Abridged)

The League is, we believe, a little further on in a normal development than it was a year ago. The Treasurer's Report, and particularly the Report of the Chairman of the Finance Committee, will, I believe, indicate that we have not only succeeded so far to obtain the money to meet our budget, but that there has been actually a margin, which has paid the bills left over from the previous year.

It has been the aim of the Executive Director to have a visit made to each of the members of the League at least once in two years, either by himself or by some other member of the staff. That has not always been possible, but it is part of a plan which is based on real needs, and our staff equipment should make this possible as soon as we can bring it about.

During the twelve months ending October 21st, 89 of our 138 members have been visited, a few of them several times. The nearer members are less likely to get attention than those that are farther off. The members asking for service are more likely to get it than if there comes no request for visit, consultation, or other service. Many inquiries come in by mail, which are taken care of with reasonable promptitude. It is reasonable to assume that most of the other members will be visited during the coming year, although some of those that were visited last year will need to be visited again.

A goodly number of executives or staff members of agencies that have not been visited have been in consultation either by calling at our office or through staff contacts and conferences.

The staff of the League, besides the director, at the present time consists of the following people:

(Continued on page 2)

INSTITUTION NEWS

The Department of Christian Social Service of the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church has asked each diocesan commission of social service, in cooperation with local leaders in social work, to survey all church institutions within the diocese. The purpose of these surveys will be: (1) To find out what need there is for the institutions now operated by the Church; (2) to ascertain the standards of their work; (3) to enlist support for those institutions worthy of support and in need thereof; and (4) to encourage any organizations which duplicate others, or which are hopelessly below standard, to discontinue.

The eighty-year-old Chicago Orphan Asylum, which for the past two years has been doing some experimental work preliminary to reorganizing its program, has now decided upon its new model of service to children. The outstanding features are skilled case work; the development of foster home care; the selling of the congregate institution which at present houses 130 children; and the use of small scattered units for the care of such children as need a period of residence in a controlled environment.

The first step in the evolutionary process which has led the Orphan Asylum into new fields was a self-analysis in which the Graduate School of Social Service of the University of Chicago, the Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund, and the Institute for Juvenile Research assisted. Miss Ethel Verry, a well-trained and experienced children's case worker, was employed as superintendent, being responsible for the development of the case work service and the administration of the institution.

At present there are 165 children under the care of the Orphan Asylum. One hundred and thirty of these are in the institution proper. Eleven girls are in a cottage located at some distance from the institution. Twenty-four are in foster homes at board.

On January 1, 1930, two more houses in residential sections of the city will be ready for occupancy. One of these will be used for boys and the other for families of

(Continued on page 5, column 1)

(Continued from page 1, column 1)

Miss Mary Irene Atkinson, who devotes her time to service to institutions. Much of this service is to institutions that are not in our membership, a considerable part of it having been devoted during the past year to survey work in Cincinnati and Omaha. She conducted a four-day Institute at Sparta, Wisconsin, at the request of the State Board of Control, Juvenile Department, which was attended by about one hundred different people, mostly superintendents or staff members of institutions in Wisconsin. Miss Atkinson also edits the BULLETIN, although in this work she is aided by other members of the staff.

Mr. H. W. Hopkirk, whose time was divided between service to Protestant church institutions and non-sectarian institutional work. He assisted in a study of the institutions of the Reformed Church, and we made recommendations to them, which have been accepted by the General Synod of the Reformed Church. A report has been printed by them and recommendations have been referred back for study by the local synods and by the institutions which were studied, with the understanding that at the next session of the General Synod, to be held in 1932, they are to report progress and participate in further formulation of social service policies for the entire church. There has also been a considerable amount of follow-up work in connection with the institutions of the Southern Presbyterian Church. Correspondence for the development of institutional care of children comes into our office, and many superintendents from near and far come into consultation with Mr. Hopkirk on questions of organization and staff.

Miss Emma O. Lundberg, Director of Surveys and Studies, has been devoting herself mostly in accordance with her title. There has, however, been a considerable amount of consultation work for her, as persons have come in specifically to talk over questions of organization, methods of study and costs of surveys or studies, so that from one-quarter to one-third of her time has not been directly connected with current survey work. She has been most active in connection with the survey in Cincinnati, has planned and given general direction to the study in Omaha, has been made official consultant of the work of the Massachusetts Child Welfare Commission, and attended two of the commission's meetings; has planned the crippled children's survey in Providence, and analyzed the findings of the census takers of the Providence School Department, has given about two months' time to the Children's Fund of Michigan, financed by Senator Couzens, has organized the children's survey in Milwaukee, and has acted as consultant for the Negro Child Welfare Study in North Carolina, made possible through the Rosenwald Fund.

Miss Elizabeth M. Clarke has been on our staff as a

temporary worker, devoting most of her time to survey work under Miss Lundberg's direction. In Cincinnati in a serious emergency she undertook the supervision of the case work of the Children's Home, which we were studying, and the Home paid the salary and expenses of Miss Clarke during that time. During the summer she was assigned by us for eleven weeks to the Alabama College for Women, to help train the County Superintendents of Child Welfare of the State of Alabama.

In connection with various survey projects there should be mentioned one project to which the Executive Director has given perhaps more attention than any other person of the staff, namely, the demonstration in Indianapolis in connection with the Indianapolis Orphan Asylum. The Indianapolis Foundation has been financing this project and has been paying the League \$1,500 for a year's supervision. The demonstration has for its purpose the development of this institution into a social service agency for children. A successful year closed on October 1st. The Foundation voted to ask the League to continue another year.

The Executive Director has also helped to reshape the Ohio Humane Society, Cincinnati, and suggested a new executive director. While in California at the National Conference of Social Work he was asked to reorganize the California Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The educational work the League has done during the year has consisted of an eleven weeks' training course given by Miss Clarke in Alabama; a four days' institute for institutional workers under Miss Atkinson's direction in Wisconsin; Mr. Hopkirk's lectures at the National Training School for Institution Executives and Other Workers in connection with several courses; round-table discussion of a children's program for the State of Indiana at the Indiana Conference of Social Work; and various addresses made by the Executive Director and other members of the staff.

Regional conferences were held in five different portions of the United States—at Boston in November; Atlanta in December; New York in January; Cincinnati in February; and Chicago in March. The attendance at these regionals was larger than ever.

REPORT ON NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL

The Boston Council of Social Agencies has generously supplied us with copies of its December Bulletin containing a detailed report of the League's New England Regional Conference allowing us to enclose it with this issue of our BULLETIN to members of the League. The limited number of extra copies available prevents us sending the enclosure to all readers, but as long as they last copies may be secured by writing to the Boston Council of Social Agencies, 43 Tremont Street, Boston.

WAS YOUR CHRISTMAS LIKE THIS?

(The following three articles were solicited from members of the Child Welfare League of America, which have reputations for making Christmas right merry for their children.)

HOW THE HENRY WATSON CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY GETS READY TO PLAY SANTA CLAUS

HELENE M. SCHNEIDERREITH
Supervisor, Home Finding Dept.

Jingle, bells! This is an era of individualization, America's Coming of Age and mass production notwithstanding. For conclusive proof you should see the Henry Watson Children's Aid Society case workers long ere their Thanksgiving turkey is comfortably digested, struggling over clever and efficient lists of "I want its" for their young champions. During the weeks preceding Christmas the personal desires of the children are tactfully discovered in the course of supervisory visits by the case workers. We must ascertain how bountifully the foster parents are planning to provide for the holiday season, what part the children's relatives will take in sharing with them, and to what extent they are dependent upon the Children's Aid Society for all or no Christmas. Where there exists the complication of more than one case worker going into a foster home, dealing with children who are not related, we must compare notes and make adjustments that will equalize the bestowal of gifts.

There are often requests that, of course, cannot be granted, but with the merciful aid of the foster mother these wishes are not permitted to become disappointments but are philosophically diverted to the obtainable, just as when you and we were young and wanted the moon, but gleefully learned to content ourselves with a mechanical duck. Thus with a certain sum duly accounted for in our budget, we are able to authorize a purchasing committee from the staff to secure at least one thing that each child has asked for and which we know will please him. With this as a base, we rub our Aladdin's lamp and begin to build.

There is in Baltimore a private school which has for many years fostered unselfishness and the spirit of giving in its students to the great advantage of our children at Christmas. There is no direct contact between their children and ours. A list of names and ages is sent to the school, assigned one to each pupil, and the result is a vast and beautiful collection of books, toys, games, clothing, fruit, nuts and candy for every child designated, transported to our very doors by a five-ton truck volunteered by a large industrial firm. Because of the aforementioned reservations with regard to quantity per child, the selections sent in from the school are not always appropriate and must be sorted out.

A high school for girls expresses its good will through its social service club by contributing hundreds of cheery tarlatan stockings bulging with good old-fashioned hard candy, dolls, and horns. Acceptable donations of twine, wrapping paper, and fancy cardboard boxes come rolling into our offices, and the big day for assembling and distribution arrives.

It we were "a cartoonist" we might visualize this final and fatalistic act of selection as a knock-down, drag out fight; scene: any bargain basement of any clean sweep sale. It is true that the maternal instinct in the case worker reigns supreme, and if her fifty-five children were her own flesh and blood they could not receive more honorable and impartial consideration. Actually, however, the procedure is well organized. System and refinement prevail.

Picture a room of spacious proportions arrayed along all four walls to the envy of Mr. John Wanamaker. In the center symmetrically placed are 10 tables, 10 balls of red cord, 10 of green, packages of red and white tissue paper, hosts of gay tags and seals; case workers pondering, choosing, wrapping; assistant wrappers to the right; shipping department to the rear; a parcel post set-up of scales and stamps for county deliveries; a motor corps of volunteers and case workers for city deliveries; hour after hour of excited, methodical preparation; late into the night; exhaustion.

Little boys are being honest and truthful, little girls are being sweet and obedient. Problems have vanished. They are ready for Christmas, and we are ready for them.

GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS AT CONNIE MAXWELL ORPHANAGE

REV. A. T. JAMISON, Superintendent

This institution is located at Greenwood, S. C. It cares for some 335 children. It is owned and operated by the Baptists of the State of South Carolina. It is conducted on the cottage plan. There are 15 units, each having its own dining room and kitchen. The 15 groups in each building are presided over by cottage mothers, and in most cases a teacher or some other member of the staff has a room in the cottage.

Our preparation for Christmas is probably not unique. Many other institutions perhaps use similar plans. Formerly we made an appeal in the denominational paper, but for several years this has not been necessary as the plan is so well established that requests come in without the necessity of a reminder. A Sunday school, a society, or an individual writes for the list of names of children residing in one cottage. These lists are sent out well in advance and sometimes they are duplicated, and in a few cases we have made the third round. The ages and the sex of the children are of course given.

THE CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.

President—CHENEY C. JONES, Boston
1st Vice-President—JACOB KEPECS, Chicago
2d Vice-President—PAUL T. BEISSER, Baltimore
3d Vice-President—MRS. LESSING J. ROSENWALD, Philadelphia
Secretary—MISS JESSIE P. CONDIT, Newark
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Executive Director—C. C. CARSTENS

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The shipments begin to come in well beforehand. They are given a safe place until the day before Christmas, when they are opened by the Assistant Superintendent at the store, division made by cottages, and the gifts sent out by truck. This division is made about three o'clock in the afternoon. The friends sending in the packages have marked the child's name on each gift. No child's gift is ever opened by any grown person. It is only the big box in which all the gifts are shipped that is opened up. When the child receives his remembrance Christmas morning, he opens for himself the very package that was tied up by the loving hands of the friend who wrapped it for him.

Effort is made to send out names of children in such a way that each child shall get the same number of gifts. If a little fellow comes short, a way is found to make it up for him so that everything may be equalized.

Nearly all the cottages arrange Christmas trees. Decision on this score, however, is made by the house mother and her children. The Executive of the institution does not pass upon the matter. The cottage votes for itself. The real fun begins when the truck goes to the cottage in the afternoon with the packages. The children all want to see, and it is a job to keep them from seeing.

The children at Connie Maxwell are not skeptics. They have no doubts. That is, they are not skeptical or doubtful on the subject of Santa Claus. They believe that he is an individual worth talking about, and they believe that he will not fail to arrive. In each cottage stockings for the little ones are usually hung. They are placed in the dining room, and the children have them when they go to breakfast, but the Christmas tree comes later. Who could ever serve breakfast or get things straight if the Christmas tree came first! It is a common thing for each child to get as many as six remembrances at Christmas time. The expense of all this does not cause the treasury to suffer. Extra articles are always sent in to go to any who are overlooked, or to any new children who may have come in since the lists went out. In addition extra money from friends is invariably sent for Christmas happiness. This goes into nuts or fruit or whatever articles may happen to be short.

The children at Connie Maxwell have as genuine and real a Christmas as any children in the land, and the day is for them literally the greatest in the year.

CHRISTMAS AT THE PHILADELPHIA CHILDREN'S BUREAU

LEIGH M. HODGES

If you had a family of 200 children, each sincerely believing in Santa Claus, getting ready for Christmas would be quite a job, wouldn't it? That's about the size of the Children's Bureau family, though a number of its members are so young that all days look alike to them. However, enough of these boys and girls in foster family care under the Bureau's supervision are old enough to look forward to December 25th as the year's top-notch festival.

The Bureau sees to it that no such child is disappointed on that day. Of course, in many cases the foster mothers and fathers with whom the children are placed make great preparation for the holiday, and whether or not they have children of their own, see to it that these youngsters shall have a big time with a Christmas tree and all the trimmings. In some of the foster homes the celebration must be more modest, however, because the Bureau's list of homes includes a wide range.

Whether its wards are cared for by those well able to provide or by those who must make every dime do its full duty, the Bureau makes sure that each boy or girl is given at least one nice present. Selection of this gift is left to the visitor who has charge of the child, and who knows what is especially wanted or needed—though always the emphasis is placed on what is wanted. The visitors are allowed an average of about a dollar and a half a child, though this may be stretched a bit if quite the right gift cannot be got within that limit. And in order to make the dollars go as far as possible, often the visitors and other members of the staff take a hand in helping to prepare the gifts.

Last Christmas building blocks, toy wagons, dolls' cradles, little chairs and tables and hobby-horses, choicely made by the inmates of an Old Men's Home, were gaily painted in the Bureau offices, which for the time being took on the hues of an annex to the workshop of old Santa himself.

All the gifts are bought well in advance and daintily tied up, and those which are to go to children in foster families outside the city are mailed early. For children in the city the Bureau Ford is transformed into a "sleigh" on Christmas Eve and by sunset the last doll or pair of skates is safely stored where it will be sure to create just the right amount of surprise next morning.

Besides these gifts each child who has passed the bounds of babyhood is presented with an attractive box

of plain chocolates, and in certain cases where an older boy or girl has shown special aptitude in some line and where a friend of the Bureau's feels inclined to make such a golden investment, a more considerable gift may be given—maybe a desk, a typewriter, or a violin.

The foster mothers are not forgotten either—each visitor sends to her list of foster mothers Christmas cards personally selected and carrying, besides a Yuletide wish, the assurance that the Children's Bureau regards these fine helpers as a real part of its big family.

INSTITUTION NEWS

(Continued)

brothers and sisters. The maximum population will be 12. It is planned to have five or six scattered units, each caring for not more than 12 children. The development of foster home care will be continued so that by the end of another year more family homes will be available.

Eventually the Orphan Asylum hopes to have one building unit for reception of new children and administration; and another unit near by for the special care of a small group of unadjusted children who need intensive study and training before permanent plans can be made for them.

Thus the Chicago Orphan Asylum is added to the list of old institutions which are readapting their programs to meet new needs in a changing world.

The Joint Service Bureau of the Protestant and non-sectarian child-caring institutions and agencies of Chicago held its annual meeting at the Uhlich Orphanage on December 6th. Thirty-one organizations have working relations with the Bureau.

The Director, Mrs. Bertha Hosford Butler, in her report, emphasized the need for careful discrimination as to cases accepted by institutions during the present financial crisis in Chicago. With no public funds available for board, the institutions will undoubtedly be called upon to accept a considerable number of dependent children for whose care neither parents nor the county can pay. If the institutional facilities are too largely utilized for the care of children whose relatives can pay the full cost of board, it means that the totally dependent children may suffer considerable hardship.

COURSES FOR INSTITUTION WORKERS ANNOUNCED

A four-week institute for the personnel of child-caring institutions is offered by the New York School of Social Work from February 3 to 28, 1930. The program of lectures and discussions will include: Methods of Administration, The "Whys" of Dependency and Delin-

quency, Conduct Problems, Educational Projects, the Institution and the Community, and other subjects. Among the lecturers will be several of the faculty of the School and leaders in the institution field. Observation trips to child-caring institutions will be arranged. The course is open to those with adequate experience.

The charge for tuition is \$35.00. Residence may be arranged at a cost of \$50.00 in an institution within commuting distance of New York City, if desired. Further information may be secured from the Registrar, New York School of Social Work, 105 East 22d Street, New York City. Applications must be filed before January 25, 1930.

The National Conference of Social Work meets in Boston, June 8 to 14, 1930. We believe this is the first city to which the conference has come for a third time. Children's workers should welcome its going there and should plan to attend, since perhaps nowhere else has the use of foster homes attained such development as there. While there are fewer institutions than in most cities, there is a new kind of institution which has linked up with it a good program of foster home care, namely, the New England Home for Little Wanderers.

BOOK REVIEW

RECONSTRUCTING BEHAVIOR IN YOUTH; a Study of Problem Children in Foster Families, by William Healey, Augusta F. Bronner, Edith M. H. Baylor, J. Prentice Murphy. (Knopf, 325 pp., \$3.25.)

With the advent of this volume, a serious gap in the literature of foster home care is beginning to be bridged. Here almost for the first time we get an exposition of the process in modern child-placing in foster families.

The placement work discussed is principally that undertaken in the so-called *boarding-home* "where the foster parents received some compensation for their services. Whether without this it is possible to secure the special and varied care which the different types of problem children need is a question which for some people will always remain unsettled; but when it is considered that treatment in the foster home is really an extension of the work of the clinic and of the agency responsible for the child, that the foster parents must be skilled in their way as the social worker or the psychiatrist and, moreover, that they, so to speak, occupy the front line trench, compensation seems as justifiable for them as for trained social workers."

The work of the foster parents with the 501 case problems analyzed in this volume is a complete answer to those who think enough homes of the right kind cannot be found for these difficult children and to those who are sure that the children are received only for the money that is in it for the foster parents.

"It is through the services of the foster parents themselves that child-placing has come to be recognized as a highly effective form of treatment founded on the essential unit of social organization—the family."

After an enlightening discussion of various problems as they are found in children and adolescents, such as stealing, running away, truancy, problems of sex, habit problems, like enuresis, the book contains a valuable practical discussion of the problems of mentality and personality and their treatment. Then there is found a brief discussion of the various schools of thought in psychiatry aimed at usefulness to the child-placing worker.

The main body of the book is given over to a detailed discussion of the principles and procedure in placement, selection of foster families, supervision, replacements, integration into a new community, or, what is more desired if possible, reintegration into the old.

A chapter of generalizations from results follows, together with some invaluable appendices for the serious students of social work.

A most significant book for child-placing workers. It is to be hoped that problems in other fields of children's work may be explored for the writing of other volumes in this series.—C. C. CARSTENS.

PLACEMENTS OF OLDER CHILDREN IN WISCONSIN

MARIE DRESDEN, Director Child Placing Department,
State Public School

The State Public School at Sparta, Wisconsin, admits dependent, neglected and abandoned children under the age of 16 years committed by the juvenile courts of the state. Up until 1927 no child of insane or feeble-minded parentage could be placed in a foster home. As the funds of the School permit no boarding home plans and the School has been in operation since 1886, the number of children over 14 years of age in a population of about 475 has always been high.

The State school law requires full time school attendance between the ages of 14 and 16 in cities of the first class. In other cities not less than 8 school months' attendance, unless a child has finished the eighth grade, is required. Then he may attend vocational school in cities where there are such facilities. But until he has finished high school or unless he has been indentured as an apprentice he must attend school half time. From 16 to 18 years he must attend 8 hours a week.

The course of study of the State School, situated in a small town, runs through ninth grade and includes very thorough home economics and manual-training. There is a farm in connection with the School and the children help with certain of the farm activities. They also assist with the store-keeping.

As soon as trained social workers were added to the School staff, the superintendent of the School and the Director of the Child-Placement Department attempted to obtain a very complete picture of the child's special abilities and failings by analyzing the reports from the academic school; from the vocational department of the school; from the farm and other work departments; and from the mental and physical examinations (already utilized in placing the child in work and school departments) and from the social history. Each child was taken fully into the confidence of the workers who were making plans for him and his future was discussed with him so that he was emotionally and mentally ready to start out on his career.

In Wisconsin, all apprentices work under a contract issued by the State Industrial Commission. A representative from the Commission came to the School to interview the older children and to see the School set-up so as to be better able to understand the particular problems of these children. With his help, one worker on the staff of the School took over the work age group of children and went out to find jobs.

Eight boys (one a negro), each of whom had finished ninth grade, was of fairly normal intelligence and had aptitude and liking for a particular field and for city life, were apprenticed in six different factories in two different cities. Seven of them lived in the Y.M.C.A. their first year as it seemed less of a transition from their institutional cottage than to a home when they had so many other adjustments to make. The negro boy went to board with a very fine colored family.

These boys had been in the School from 4 to 11 years and each had brothers and sisters under School guardianship. They were given very intensive supervision; taught to live on a budget; taught to use all the advantages of a city—church, gymnasium, night school, free music lessons, museum—and were kept in close contact with the School through visits "home" at holidays.

At the end of the year, one boy moved from the Y.M.C.A. to live with his grandmother as it was felt he was firmly enough acquainted with and tied to activities which he needed to offset an ignorant but loving and faithful home atmosphere. Three boys were not considered apprentice material; one due to mental inadequacy, one to erratic temperament and one to general incompetency. They were placed at steady jobs which gave them a chance to become semi-skilled workers in fairly well stabilized industries, in small factories where the general managers can know them personally. One lives with an older brother, two at the Y.M.C.A.

Six boys with strong preferences for the farm have been placed on wage contracts in well organized specialty farms where they live as members of the family.

These farms include a poultry farm, a dairy farm with milk route, a truck farm, etc. The boys are saving money and two of them plan to attend the University of Wisconsin Short Course in Agriculture a little later.

Four boys were placed in homes where they can work their way through high school, as that is their ambition and they have ability. One 13-year-old negro boy has been placed in the city so that he may have private lessons in the studio of a commercial artist. He acts as office boy on Saturdays so as to pay for his supplies and takes music lessons at the nearby social center in his free time.

The older girls are all placed in city homes where they work for their room and board and attend school. Several of them are in full-time high school, taking straight academic courses; one is making a brilliant record in advanced dressmaking and design in a girls' technical high school. Several are taking stenography and comptometry and one hair dressing through full-time attendance at vocational school. One is taking lettering and design at half-time vocational school. These children live in the family group, but they are kept closely tied to the social worker, and also to their own relatives through visits and letters, inadvisable as their return to relatives may be. Most of them came to the School after they were ten years of age, and they feel emotionally tied to their own families, particularly to the little sisters and brothers back at the School, so they, like the boys, come "home" to visit during holidays.

Three of the older girls who had been unhappy, restless and naughty in rather poor work and foster homes, were removed from these homes by the worker and are living in working girls' clubs. One has a very simple factory job, one has a very good job with chances of promotion and one is working at the recommendation of a psychiatrist but will soon be given a chance at high school. Between being docked, losing jobs, getting into debt, falling in and out of love, they are learning what we all learn on the first job—it's not all beer and skittles but is pretty good fun, anyway.

It is the experience of the School that study and planning with the child during the years from 12 to 14 in the institution or foster home; very close supervision from 14 to 17 with gradual lessening of contact from 17 to 19 as he becomes tied to the Y.M.C.A., his church, his clubs, his work or boarding home makes for success. There will always be upsets—sudden yielding to the temptation of buying a second-hand car, vacationing without permission in Chicago, too many new dresses and a few public dances. The first apprentice to draw a pay check some years back, bought a season football ticket for the State University games. The next one bought a watch for his girl. Just like any other normal

children! But they are all, we feel, growing up quite successfully, certainly happily, and their futures look fairly secure, judging from their social and economic ties during these formative years. There have been, so far, more opportunities for placement than children ready for placement. Now that the congestion of older children in the institution (due to lack of trained field workers before 1925) has been lessened, more attention is being paid to: (1) the 16 and 17 year old children who were placed in mediocre and poor foster homes some years ago, children who need vocational guidance and a start before being released from guardianship; (2) 12 to 14 year old children who have recently come under guardianship and who cannot go home or to relatives; (3) 12 to 16 year old children who are with relatives or parents under our supervision.

FOLLOW-UP ON NEW ORLEANS SURVEY

In the fall of 1925 a survey was made of the children's institutions and agencies in New Orleans. Mr. Carstens has been back several times since the survey was completed but the member of the staff who did the field work has just returned to New Orleans for the first time.

It was not possible to go to all of the institutions but a number of them were visited. Information was secured on others so that we were able to get a bird's-eye view of the most important changes that have taken place during the past four years. While the results of the survey have not been spectacular, there have been worth while improvements in service which we believe justify the investment which the Community Chest and the League made in order to have the work for dependent children evaluated.

The most notable development during 1929 has been the establishment of a child guidance clinic under the direction of Dr. Harry B. Levey. The work of the clinic will undoubtedly affect both the service and the point of view of all of the children's agencies utilizing its resources.

ENCLOSURES

(Sent to members only)

CASE WORK RESPONSIBILITY OF JUVENILE COURTS.
By Grace Abbott, Chief, U. S. Children's Bureau,
Washington, D. C. Reprint from *Social Service Review*,
September, 1929.

BULLETIN of the Boston Council of Social Agencies,
December issue. This contains a report of the proceedings of the League's New England Regional Conference.
(See article on page 2.)

INTER-CITY CONFERENCE ON
ILLEGITIMACY
BULLETIN

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Vice-President: MISS MAUD MORLOCK, Cleveland, Ohio.
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STUDY OF NEW YORK FOUNDLING HOSPITAL

REVEREND BRYAN E. McENTEGART
Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of New York

As a brief review of the study of the New York Foundling Hospital, made in 1927 under the direction of Miss Rose McHugh, this article can only touch the principal points. A later article will deal with the section on mothers under care.

The growth of the Foundling Hospital from the little house on East 12th Street, established by Sister Mary Irene in 1869 as a shelter "to prevent homicide, and preserve to God and Society lives which would be otherwise sacrificed to hide shame," presents a story of development paralleled in the history of few social agencies. Romantic is the picture of two women starting out with a pitiable endowment of five dollars to combat the work of the notorious abortionist, Madame Restell, then reigning arrogantly in her Fifth Avenue mansion, and to meet a situation described by a daily journal of the period as follows: "Day by day the papers tell of little human waifs thrown into areas, or left on doorsteps, or worse far, and more to be deplored, flung lifeless into vacant lots like garbage or refuse matter."

Up to the time of the study more than 75,000 children and 19,000 mothers had received care. In 1927 the hospital offered seven types of service to neglected and dependent children and unmarried mothers, including a maternity hospital, a shelter for unmarried mothers, a babies' hospital, a home for children under two years of age, a home for children from two to sixteen, an agency for boarding out children, and an agency for placing out children with a view to adoption. In addition to the patients in the sixty-bed maternity hospital, ninety-two mothers were under care. The children were distributed as follows: in free homes, 2,021; in boarding homes, 644; receiving hospital and institutional care, 756.

Each generation has presented its own problems and has necessitated an adjustment of the work of the Foundling Hospital. Among the most significant changes has been a reduction in the admissions of children less than one year of age from 86% to 47% within the fifteen-year period, 1911 to 1926. The proportion of illegitimate children admitted and the number of unmarried mothers under care also greatly decreased.

These changes showed the need for a revision of the program to meet changing conditions.

To set forth an intelligent plan, it was necessary to make case studies of the unmarried mothers under care. This resulted in an analysis of their home environment, education, attitude toward pregnancy, character and habits, religious training, predominating factors in plans for their future, and their attitude toward their child. As far as was possible, putative fathers were interviewed. On the basis of these findings, recommendations were made calling for a case work service covering the admission, the treatment and after-care of mothers, and their classification and vocational training while in the institution.

The placing-out department had children under supervision in almost every State of the Union, and many had even been taken to foreign countries. The policies as to placement, supervision and adoption were carefully checked up. The difficulties of properly investigating and supervising homes at a long distance were manifest. It was, therefore, recommended that the rule adopted a few years previous of placing children only in the vicinity of New York City, should be strictly adhered to in the future. For the children already placed, it was recommended that where they had been well adjusted for a period of years, efforts should be made to hasten adoption, and that others placed in doubtful homes should be returned to the hospital for further study and replacement. As far as possible, the visitors of the placing-out department working in distant States were to be connected up with local diocesan charity offices.

The Boarding Department had been regarded as an auxiliary service to the institution to care for those who could not be accommodated otherwise. In the course of the study every boarding home was visited and rated. Advanced standards for investigation, supervision and records were emphasized, and the advantages of the boarding-out system were pointed out. In this light it was advised that the hospital adopt it as the main method of caring for children, and that the department be reorganized with that aim in view.

In general, it was recommended that the New York Foundling Hospital concentrate on the care of children under school age, since the other institutions and boarding agencies of the Archdiocese had sufficient resources to care for children over six years of age, and were better equipped to give the special, social and educational training which they require.

Membership dues at One Dollar a year are now payable and may be forwarded to the secretary, Miss Marguerite Boylan, Diocesan Bureau of Social Service, 244 Main Street, Hartford, Conn.

